

Please add new claims 13-21 as follows:

a<sup>2</sup>  
--13. The AC generator as in claim 1, wherein the slip ring cover is integrally formed with a wall part which extends in the axial direction of the rotary shaft and covers the suction/discharge port partially so that the suction/discharge port is provided within an axial range of the slip ring cover.--

--14. An AC generator for a vehicle, comprising:  
a rotor having a rotary shaft, a field winding, and a slip ring provided on one end of the rotary shaft and electrically connected to the field winding;  
a brush held in sliding contact with the slip ring;  
a brush holder holding the brush therein;  
a slip ring cover having outer and inner arc-shaped walls arranged radially outside the slip ring to cover the slip ring in both axial and circumferential directions of the slip ring, the outer and inner arc-shaped walls being separated from each other in a radial direction thereby to provide a spacing therebetween which communicates a radial inside of the inner arc-shaped wall and a radial outside of the outer arc-shaped wall.--

--15. The AC generator as in claim 14, wherein the outer arc-shaped wall has an opening extending in the axial direction of the slip ring, and the inner arc-shaped wall is arranged only radially inside part of the opening while overlapping with end parts of the outer arc-shaped wall in the circumferential direction of the slip ring.--

--16. The AC generator as in claim 15, wherein the opening is provided in opposing relation to the brush with respect to the slip ring.--

--17. The AC generator as in claim 16, wherein the inner arc-shaped wall and the opening are positioned on an underside of the slip ring.--

--18. The AC generator as in claim 14, wherein both the brush holder and the slip ring cover are generally box-shaped and have axial end walls engaged with each other and

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cancel

covering an axial end of the slip ring, one of the axial end walls covering an axial end of the spacing between the outer and inner arc-shaped walls.--

--19. The AC generator as in claim 18, wherein the outer arc-shaped wall has an opening extending in the axial direction of the slip ring at a side opposite the brush in the radial direction with respect to the slip ring, and the outer arc-shaped wall has a projecting end extending along the opening and projecting radially outward thereby to restrict foreign matter from entering the opening.--

--20. The AC generator as in claim 14, wherein both the brush holder and the slip ring cover are generally box-shaped and engaged with each other to surround the slip ring and the brush, and both the brush holder and the slip ring have side walls, one of which has ribs projecting toward and contacting the other of the side walls to restrict foreign matter from entering a space between the brush holder and the slip ring cover.--

--21. The AC generator as in claim 14, wherein both the brush holder and the slip ring cover are generally box-shaped and have openings which face each other, and the outer and inner arc-shaped walls of the slip ring cover are formed in opposition to the opening of the slip ring cover.--

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending. By this Amendment claim 1 is amended and claims 13-21 are added. Support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found throughout the specification and at least in Figs. 1, 2 and 4, and page 7, lines 23-27. Support for claim 13 may be found at least in Figs. 2 and 4 and the accompanying text. Support for claims 14-21 may be found throughout the specification and at least in page 7, lines 23-27 and claim 2. Thus, no new matter is added.

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of the rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).